

THE "BRITISH RUGBY SOCIETY" PRESENTS ...

CROSBY POST

FIFTH YEAR (NEW SERIES) NO. 3 AUG. 1959



EXCLUSIVE STORY ...

BILL TAYLOR'S NEPHEW, MEMBER GERALD SMITH, MEETS BILL ...

EJL

22

Honorary President; BING CROSBY: Hon' Vice-President; LARRY CROSBY:

Active Co-Presidents;

Frank Murphy, 15, Grosvenor Gardens, High Howdon, Wallsend, Northumb'ld.
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Pat Sullivan, 3134, North 53rd Str, Milwaukee 16, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

HONORARY MEMBERS: MICHAEL HOLLIDAY: TED RAY: ALAN LADD: JOAN REGAN:
NORMAN WISDOM: EDVIE PRESLEY: JIM WILSON +

+ Bing's golfing partner at St Andrews Scotland in 1950

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY was formed in March 1950 with the permission of our Hon-President Harry Lillis (BING) Crosby.

The club magazine "CROSBY POST" is published bi-monthly by the Society at 15, Grosvenor Gardens, High Howdon, Wallsend, Northumberland, and is edited by Frank Murphy.

The cover is designed by Ted Iaker.

The yearly membership fee is 7/6 and an X here; ___ signifies that your subscription is now due.

Please remit by blank postal order direct to our Secretary Dorothy Hardiman, (address in list of officers)

Members please note that your personal articles, pen pal requests, poems or story's on Bing are always welcome. Please send these direct to the Editor:

Collectors who wish to advertise in our record section "EXCHANGE & MART" should send their lists direct to Co-President; William Taylor.

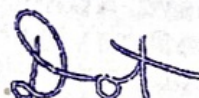
Members views on the journal are always welcome and if you require a personal reply to your letter, a self addressed stamped envelope will be much appreciated:

CROSBY POST NINTH YEAR (NEW SERIES) AUGUST 1959;

Dot's letter of resignation

Dear Members, owing to increasing pressure of home duties and recent bouts of ill health, I find I cannot devote as much time as I would like to the many jobs entailed in the Presidency of the club. Therefore, with the consent and approval of the Crosby office I have asked our Discologist Bill Taylor to take over my position as Co-President. I shall still be working for the club in a lesser capacity and hope you will still write to me as usual. As I have mentioned before, one of the greatest pleasures of running this club, is the opportunities it affords of meeting and making friends with so many nice people and I know you will continue to give Bill and Frank the same loyalty and support you have given me over so many years. As long as we admire, respect, and serve a wonderful person like Bing, we can't go wrong. God bless you all,

Bingoerely,



PS from FRANK

Dear Dot, I know all the members will endorse my personal feelings on the subject of your resignation from the club Presidency. That you will be carrying on with us as Secretary is a great consolation. It's no secret that were it not for your personal sacrifices over past years, there would perhaps be no Crosby Society around today and I personally remember the last real crisis of around 1952 when the then head of the club Arhter Allen actually notified the members that the club was closing down. Here in 1959 we're still here, and through your efforts we are in as strong a position as we've ever been in. Bill and I will take great comfort from the fact that we'll still have 'Dot' to turn to on matters of decision. Here's to a new era in the Crosby Society - Here's to a knot firmly tied with the original head; Dot Hardiman.

L.P.s I WISH BING WOULD MAKE:

To continue with member Eric Jackson's idea in the last Post, an L.P. I would like to have would be of Bing with the "FIREHOUSE FIVE PLUS TWO" Jazz Band. This outfit has been featured many times on Bing's old radio shows, and evidence of how well they work together can be heard on an air-shot of "Everybody Loves My Baby" contained in the fabulous collection of Bill Taylor.

So I would make the above number first on a disc followed up by.....
 THAT'S A PLENTY: SWEET GEORGIA BROWN: DARK TOWN STRUTTERS BALL:
 MISSISSIPPI MUD: MEMPHIS BLUES: ST LOUIS BIDES: SHEIK OF ARABY: AT SUNDOWN:
 BLACK BOTTOM: WAY DOWN YONDER IN NEW ORLEANS: RED SAILS IN THE SUNSET:
 Well that's the set I'd like to see put out, anyone else got any ideas?



Editors Note: It was a pleasant surprise to receive the following article from our old friend, Stan White. It seems that Stan has been kept busy of late writing articles for the Irish weekly, TV and Radio Review. Stan has promised to write to us more regularly from now on, so I know that will please all of you who have followed his previous articles.

THANKS TO BING from SLAVA

by Stan White;

We all know that Bing is a kind person, always thoughtful to others and many times have we heard of the ways in which Bing has helped people to overcome personal troubles, whilst his charity to the welfare committee of many an organisation is well known.

I suppose it is the little personal things that Bing does for people that are the least heard about and I have a story here which you will never have heard of before. It was told to me in a letter from a Russian friend named Slava Repnikov.

Slava lives in Moscow and is interested in all sorts of Western music under the heading of Jazz and Popular music. Slava will tell you that in Russia, the gramophone speeds are 33 and one third and 78 revs per minute. They do not have the 45 speed.

Slava has fixed his player so that it will play the 45 rpm records. He then wrote to an English musical paper and asked if anyone would be willing to exchange English and American records with him for Russian, he could not offer much on the Russian label as they do not have any popular music as we do. I wrote to Slava and told him I would exchange with him. This is expensive and also entails filling in a lengthy customs form, however we made an exchange. He had asked for Jazz and I sent him some. Slava then replied and said the records had arrived safely and he added that someone had sent him some records by Frank Sinatra and that he thought he was the greatest popular singer he had ever heard.

Straight away I sent to Russia some EP records of Bing which included some EPs of the early material now available on the LP The Young Bing Crosby. These together with an EP titled Bing and the Dixieland Bands were sent to Slava. This did the trick, Slava fell for Bing but still couldn't buy his records in Russia, his friends were mad about Bing too so in April this year he wrote a letter to BING CROSBY: HOLLYWOOD. The letter reached Bing safely.

Bing was overwhelmed to receive a letter from Moscow and more especially when he learned that Slava liked his singing and also Jazz but couldn't buy any records.

Slava received a letter from Bing saying that it was the first time that he had heard from anyone in the Soviet Union, and that Slava's letter came as a sort of event - an Extraordinary event in his correspondence. He said he would like Slava to send him some Russian music on record (which he did) and that he would hear further from Bing. Slava said the next thing to arrive was a wonderful photo graph of Bing which had written on it; "To Slava With Warmest Regards - Bing Crosby". By this time it was our Russian friend who was overwhelmed to think that an American should trouble to send him a photograph. The climax came shortly afterwards when a big parcel arrived at Slava's home from America, it came from Bing Crosby so the package label stated.

Cont. on page 5

In the parcel were two LONG PLAYING RECORDS SENT BY BING CROSBY HIMSELF. One was called "Bing With A Beat, with the Bob Scobey Jazz Band. The other was "Fancy Meeting You Here with Rosemary Clooney, also a 45 speed record by Bing which Slava has not named and a 78 speed record arrived broken.

Slava says he likes the records very much and in his own words, "My pals when they drop in to see me are damn thrilled to hear the records and see the picture.

And there you have it, just another wonderful gesture on the part of Bing. Slava Repnikov would be pleased to hear from anyone who could send him a few records, or magazines about Bing and Jazz. He points out that only one magazine is allowed through the customs at once. Slava writes good English and works in the Ceylon Embassy in Moscow. If you write a letter to him, it costs 6d by ordinary post. There is no Air-mail to Russia yet. Mr V.A.Repnikov. (Slava) 44/7, 3d Tverskaya-Yamskaya, Apt 13.

Moscow D-47.

U. S. S. R.

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Pat Sullivan presents "AMERICAN NEWSLETTER" July 5, 1959.

Hi Frank and members,

If I seem to be cutting down on my Newsletter for the Post it's only because there isn't much in the way of news to pass along to you. The enclosed slips concern chiefly the Crosby Boys, but I think you will find them of interest regardless. As you probably know, the four will open at your London Palladium on September 28th. Their night club act has been a smashing success in Chicago, and this is the really first big break they've had.

"SAY ONE FOR ME" is out here now and likewise the LP album.

Did you know that Bing has formed his own recording company? As yet they hav'nt chosen a name for the new label. The first project will be a folk song LP based on a series that recently ran in 'Life' magazine entitled "How the West was Won". Rosemary Clooney and Burl Ives are also included in the deal and the album will consist of folk songs and narration. The new label will devote itself to special material only-no single releases. And now onto the rest of the news.....

Kups column-June 24...The brothers Crosby, opening Thursday at the Chez, led the applause for Mel Torme and Fay DeWitt at Mister Kelly's the other eve.

Herb Lyon-June 30...So far, Bing's closest pals, Phil Harris and Bob Hope have popped into the Chez Paree to catch the Crosby boys great new act, but daddy has'nt. The fact is, Der Bingle wanted his boys to tee off on their own (before showing up) and so they did. The lads, dad, larded \$600,000 worth of bookings since they opened here Thursday.

Kups Column-July 3rd...Lou Cowen, President of CBS-TV, quietly slipped into the Chez Paree the other night to catch the four Crosby boys. He'd like to build a TV show around them.

Herb Lyon-July 3rd...The swingin' Crosby kids, drawing bigger and bigger at the Chez, credit the club owners with having that faith and booking 'an unproven act'... The bubbling boys open chum, at the London Palladium Sept 28 and have 10 weeks of bookings in Europe thereafter.

Bentley Stegner-MY NIGHT OUT-July 5th

Geneticists seeking proof that talent is inherited need look no further than the Chez Paree. The Crosby Brothers, four chips of the Old Groaner,

are showbusiness though thoroughbreds.

Confounding the sadists who come to see them flop, Gary, Philip, Dennis and Lindsay, are a swinging quartet with an act that's steeped in poise timing and high good humor.

Gary, 26, is the leader. He has Bing's swaggering assurance, his husky vocal chords and many of his mannerisms.

No looks alike are Phil and Dennis, 24, the married twins. Phil, biggest and blondest of the foursome, is a tenor. Denis, who has his uncle Bob's mouth and jaw, sings bass.

Lindsay, 21, a curly haired brunet who's the quartet's second tenor, has the best singing voice of the lot.

Each leaves the others plenty of leeway for solo showmanship as the y clown and croon like old pros. Moving about with ease and agility, never falling into the static trap that holds many other choral groups in awkward frozen attitudes.

Kups column-June 28-THE HEADLINERS

Der Bingle Crosby was on the long distance wire from California shortly after his four sons finished their opening show at the Chez Paree. He talked, in turn, to George Rosenberg (his agent) who also guides the boys, Phil Harris and your reporter; Crosby was as elated as a dad should be over the glowing reports on Gary, Phil, Dennis and Lindsay. We told him we'd had arrived with trepidation, but remained to cheer, as did all the first nighters. Bing got a hearty chuckle when we repeated one of Gary's lines. "We hav'nt heard so much applause since we told OL' Dad we were leaving home!"

CAPSULE COMMENT; Der Bingle not only set up his sons with million dollar trust funds, but he also gave each a million dollars worth of poise and personality, which is apparent in their act... Crosby to agent Rosenberg; "Sign the boys for my first TV show - if their price is right!"

(The four boys and Frank Sinatra will be Der Bingles guests on his first ABC-TV Spec'.

Also included in Pat's review was a four piece article which devoted itself entirely to a report on each of Bing's four famous sons.

In the next issue of Crosby Post we shall print the first part of this exciting article, which we know you will greatly enjoy.

HAVE YOU GOT A FRIEND WHO LIKES BING? IF YOU HAVE, WHY NOT INVITE YOUR FRIEND TO JOIN OUR CIRCLE OF CROSBY ADMIRERS:

NEWS FROM TED

I recently recieved an interesting letter from our Hon Vice-President; LARRY CROSBY in which he answered a few questions I had put to him earlier;

LARRY WRITES: "DEAR TED/ BING HAS NOW PLANS TO VISIT ENGLAND IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THERE IS NOTHING DEFINATE ON A PICTURE WITH BOB HOPE. on the subject of "Say one for Me"Larry says,...ITS THE TOP PICTURE HERE: DOING 167% OF AVERAGE AVERAGE BUSINESS; AND THE CRITICS HAVE BEEN UNANIMOUSLY GOOD. ON THE SUBJECT OF BING EVER GETTING TOGETHER ON A COMMERCIAL RECORD RELEASE WITH THE JAZZ COMBO "FIREHOUSE FIVE"... SUCH A RECORD WAS MADE SEVERAL YEARS AGO. JUST ANOTHER SAMPLE OF DECCA'S SLOW MERCHANDISING/ AND ONE OF THE REASONS WE GAVE UP WITH THEM!;

I expect most of you have heard 'Say One For Me' b/w 'I Couldn't Care Less' Phillips PB 921. Taken from Bing's new Film. I enjoyed it more after I had seen the film. This record arrived too late for inclusion in my last review. Personally I liked it, although I'm afraid that it won't hit any Top-Twenty. Good news is available from GALA records, who tell me that the childrens records, previously only issued in America, will be issued here either late September or early October. They will consist of 2, 12" L.P.s, each costing 16/9, but if I can get a good number of you to order them through myself, I believe I can bring the cost down as low as 14/9 post free. If you would like to take advantage of this special offer which is exclusive to the members of the British Crosby Society, let me know so that I can order well in advance. As this is a very small review this month, I am handing you over for the rest of my space to my nephew, who has just returned from Los Angeles and meeting Bing HIMSELF. So let him tell you his story, and you will probably do as I did. Drool with envy!!!

HOW I MET BING: by member Gerry Smith

Having achieved the ambition of most of us members, in meeting the great man himself, I feel I must share it with you all to a certain extent, by telling you how most of it occurred. On Monday 1st of June at 10pm I boarded a Bristol Britannia aircraft of B.O.A.C. bound for New York. Weather conditions were such that we had to divert via Keflavik (Iceland) and fly over part of Canada before reaching New York, about 8am. After waiting about an hour, I picked up my ticket for San Francisco to Los Angeles. I was now about half way on my journey, approx 3000 miles from home and another 3000 miles to go. 8 hours non-stop brought us to the Golden Gate, and we decided to stay that night in San Francisco, so we booked in at a hotel near the airport and thought we'd like to try American Television. By a strange co-incidence, who do you think we saw on the screen as we switched on. Yes you probably guessed right, 'BING!!!' They were showing the 'Bells Of St Mary's' and that alone was worth the stay that night, although we saw very little else. Next morning we boarded an American DC6 Western Airlines arriving in Los Angeles about 2 hours later. We immediately made for Sunset Boulevard and booked in at the Sunset Orange Motel, yes MOTEL,. It wasn't until Friday morning that we decided to pay our visit to the great man, having had a good look at the city of stars first, so we took a cab to the Crosby office, and the first person to greet us was Maghee, Miss Maghee, but they never use the Miss part, she is Secretary and advance guard, but on hearing who we were and where we were from, was more than helpful and ushered us into Larry's office. Introductions over, Larry contacted Bing on the phone, who said we could come right over. Another cab up to Beverly Hills, with the cab driver acting as guide and pointing out the various homes of the elite of Hollywood. On arriving at our destination, we walked up the drive with a feeling of awe, that wonderful feeling of being here, actually in the home of the one and only Bing. A friend of Bing's came out and enquired who we were and what our business was, and we explained that we had been sent over by Larry. He then said that if we didn't mind waiting a few minutes, Bing was engaged in a

conference, but was almost finished.

True enough, within five minutes, which seemed like ages, the door opened, and three people walked out. This was our big moment; for the middle one was unmistakably Bing himself.

He shook hands with the other two and waved them good-bye, he then turned and faced us. He immediately held out his hand to us and asked our names, on hearing that we were from London, he said; "Oh yes, I had a visitor yesterday, one Mike Holliday and his wife, they were very nice people, very nice!"

We chatted for a while, I couldn't tell you if it was seconds or hours, it was like a dream come true. He noticed that we had cameras and asked if we would like a picture. He posed with us in turn naturally and easily and then explained that he was tied up with conferences and recording plans, and although he did not dismiss us, we sensed that he was using up valuable time.

I asked him if he would do one final favour for me, and without asking what it was, he replied "Yes" immediately. I asked if he would do a small tape that I had brought with me, if he would say something for the Society, he told me to drop it in at the office and he would pick it up later.

So with a final handshake, and a cheery wave he passed indoors. I can hardly describe the feelings we felt as we turned to go, I suppose it must be a similar feeling when someone tells you you've won a divvy on the pools, something you can't quite grasp until sometime later when the full impact hits you.

But there it is folks; I probably hav'nt told it as it really happened, but that is as near as I can get it down onto paper, and keep as a wonderful memory.

The tape has not arrived yet, but before I left Los Angeles I called at the office again, and Larry told me that Bing had taken the tape up to the house, so I shall probably keep it in a glass case, and bring it out on very special occasions. I hope that I have given you some small enjoyment in describing the ambition that was realised.

Gerry Smith (Bills nephew)....

KEEPING *
HIS *
HAND *
IN *

BING CROSBY TALKS ABOUT HIS NEXT T.V. SHOW

AND DISCUSSES SUBJECTS IN GENERAL:

In spite of himself, Bing Crosby, now 54 and the butt of more friendly jokes than any other man living (when Bob Hope gets laryngitis, Crosby's publicity suffers), has become something of a legend. The legendary aspect of the name applies even in Hollywood, for Crosby is not a man to circulate in the working vineyards, and his very absence a good deal of the time makes Hollywoodites feel that they are talking of someone slightly out of this world.

The public, generally speaking, sees Bing Crosby as a household institution a name familiar to many for virtually their entire lives. He is more than just a singer and actor, but just how much more and in what specific way is hard to define. "Well he's just Bing Crosby, that's all" about sums it up.

To the workers in the Hollywood vineyards, Crosby appears to come in two versions - one good and the other not so good. To some he is thoughtful co-operative and the easiest-going man one could hope to work with. To others he is an enigma-cold-eyed, unyielding and about as friendly as an iceberg.

Slouching one hour late into a seat at the 20th Century Fox commissary one recent afternoon, Crosby tossed off a casual apology for his tardiness. He was making a new movie, "Say One For Me" He bandied a few pleasant words with the waitress, dismissed potatoes as a plot against his waistline and settled down to a relaxed luncheon.

The conversation verred around to Bing's March 2 program, the second and last variety show of the current season under his new ABC contract.

"Why do I do these shows?" He was repeating a question. "Oh I dunno, I just like to keek the boys(his production team) togehter. And its fun to come back to town and see all the old friends now and again. You like to keep your hand in you know. I don't think any active man can really retire. You can do just so much fishing and it begins to be a drag on you."

"And we're reactivating the old Crosby Enterprises for TV film. ABC is financing two series a yearfor us so we'd better start coming up with something. We've got the rights to Boys Town' you know. Should make a pretty interesting series. And there's and action-adventure yarn some-where in the works. I watch a fair amount of television. You know-the fights, football games, dramatics like Playhouse 90', a lot of the specials. Some of the boys are doing pretty interesting things"

He paused to light a pipe and then swung back into the conversation. "Its a funny thing. Everybody knows television. When I'm up in Nevada and that part of the country I visit around peoples homes. You know, they miss Gracie Allen. They always ask me if George is going to bring Gracie back. They really miss her. It's interesting."

"And that Eddie Fisher thing. It didn't help him any, did it? People resented it. It was'nt handled very well, I suppose. They were having trouble at home-people do you know-but he didn't handle it well at all. It was too bad."

Crosby's co-star in the picture is Debbie Reynolds.

He shrugged once more with reference to his own March 2nd show. "We'll sing it up a bit and play around with it. Might have a lot of fun".

It's a simple formula, one that's made Crosby a millionaire. Apparently the only trick lies in knowing how to do it.....Reporter, Dan Jenkins:
.....
Our thanks to Pat Sullivan for the above article which appeared in a recent US-TV magazine.
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EDITORS NOTE..... Along about here, I'd like to ask how are you enjoying your magazine?

I bet you'll find it hard to believe but it's an honest fact that only about 10% of our total membership ever bothers to drop us a line after recieving each issue of Crosby Post. You know its very important to us that you do drop us a line or too - in this way, we can access the popularity of each article and in the end we have a clear picture of just what type of articles you most enjoy.

Do please acknowledge your journal, and if you'd like a personal reply, remember a S.A.E. is always much appreciated.

On the dot of 11am one morning, he stood before an overhead microphone in the recording studio of RCA Victor. It was one of two four hour sessions in which he was recording a Dixieland album of his own selection. He was comfortably dressed in grey-green slacks, a loose fitting, long sleeved yellow garbadine shirt which had "BING" monogrammed on the pocket. His well-worn brown 'chucker' shoes added a final informal note.

A dozen or more pieces of sheet music were stacked on a stand in front of him. "Dream a little dream of Me" was opened.

"Let's run over it" Crosby said to the nine musicians grouped around him. They had just tuned up when the studio door opened and a photographer loaded down heavily with cameras and flashlight equipment entered.

"Hi Gene" Crosby said, "What you doing here?"

"I'm supposed to take some pictures of you"

"Oh no. Got no hair on boy. Dads got to paint some hair on"

The photographer had worked with Crosby before. He knew better than to argue.

"Tomorrow" Crosby conceded. "You can do it tomorrow. I'll wear a baseball cap."

The photographer exited as quickly as he had entered.

The recording light went on and the door wasn't opened again for the next four hours.

"Let's go Mattie" Crosby stuck his hands in his pockets and hitched up his trousers. When Mattie MaJnecks music started, the singer's left foot began to tap and the rhythm pulsed throughout his body. Every motion and muscle sensitized to the beat, he sang clearly, softly, distinctly. When he hit a low note, he bent his knees and depressed his body as if its lowered position helped give the notes their deeper tones.

"You ain't just dreamin' boy, you is awake" he drawled during a trumpet solo.

The first take over, he sat wordlessly on a green-cushioned stool and, stoney faced, listened to the recording being played back.

"Did it sound alright, Bing?" the control room engineer asked.

"Yah. Let's get on to the next one.

"It won't get too hooty, will it?" he questioned once.

In his early days with Paul Whiteman and the Rhythm Boys and in radio, Crosby worked with the jazz greats, the late Dorsey Brothers, Artie Shaw, Joe Venuti, Louis Armstrong, Jack Teagarden, Duke Ellington. The late, great cornetist Bix Beiderbecke was once his roommate.

"What's next?" he'd ask. "Let's keep going while we're warm....."

Sometimes during the music, the music spirit was so much a part of him, hands in pockets, trousers hiked and whistling softly, that he would go into a shuffling softshoe, graceful, casual, content.

He ordered some food for the boys around 2 o'clock, and when it was delivered he kept right on, hamburger in hand, singing and chewing, never missing a beat. His eye ever on the clock, the sixth side was finished at five minutes to 3.

"Thanks fella's" he said.

He walked over to a chair where his brown Eisenhower-type jacket was draped; he took a pipe and tobacco pouch from the pockets and puffing on his pipe, went into the control room to decide which takes he wanted to print. On his return, he put on a brown felt hat and the jacket which proved to be about eight inches shorter than his yellow shirt. This sartorial error concerned him not.

"C'mon" he said unexpectedly. "We'll go somewhere and talk".

+++++END OF PART TWO+++++

In the next instalment, Bing tells of his early sports days

"FANCY MEETING YOU HERE".....(A HAPPY COLLABORATION)

Here is an L.P. which in my opinion, contains much of what should constitute first class entertainment. Much good humour and easy going singing through-out the tracks. Yes, the combining of Crosby and Clooney for this-something on the lines of an extensive tour, is a happy idea. So without any more ado, let's take a closer look at the proceedings;

Side one opens up with a musical resume of the LP's title, giving our duo a nice little number to start off with. Song takes the form of a kind of disagreement as to where they should go, but things get sorted out and the light hearted romp tells us that they ended up together.

Which brings us to "SLOW BOAT TO CHINA" starting quite deceptively in slow vein. Our team soon warm things up with a real up tempo chorus, this fast spell is followed up by a delicious Crosby solo with Clooney doing a few asides and up a kind of a harmony.

"I CAN'T GET STARTED" comes next, this is a great Gershwin tune. Bing starts the proceedings gently backed by a solo piano. The theme is then taken up by Rosie, then with the full orchestra ridin' in, our duo drift easily along with the lyrics. On this track the Crosby 'deep' tones are well to the fore.

"HINDUSTAN" is where we pay our next brief call. This somewhat mysterious is conjured up well by the orchestra's mood at the beginning of this tune. Then follows a clever piece of duetting by the two 'C's' on the qualities of this much sung about place.

Rosemary Clooney starts the ball rolling on "IT HAPPENED IN MONTEREY" Bing doesn't lag far behind and is in fine fettle. Vocalising in romantic mood, reminiscent of so many of his most successful recordings, this track finishes with a slap bang up to date chorus or two of this famous number in Cha Cha style.

"YOU CAME A LONG WAY FROM ST LOUIS"

Opens up with a spot of mild leg pulling. Then comes a well sung chorus, followed by a little ad-libbing. Bing takes this number in mild manner, Rosie I feel, is guilty of being a little too harsh in her treatment.

The song that closes the first side is "LOVE WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY"

Miss Clooney kicks off, quickly joined by Mr Crosby, together they put this one over well, rounding off a very easy to listen to part one.

One side two "HOW ABOUT YOU" opens the batting, the verse is taken slowly by both songsters. But by the time the chorus is reached things warm up considerably. Gentle asides alluding to Kim Novak and Frank Sinatra are bandied about. All in all, another good track.

Following hot on the trail is "BRAZIL" which receives excellent treatment by all concerned. Bing shows up well, and of course Miss Clooney acquits herself well also.

We next reach the "ISLE OF CAPRI" once again the mood is set and well captured. The time honoured lyrics seem to receive new life in the hands of our stars, and later the words are brought up to date a little, which provides once again for a little humour.

"CALCUTTA" beckons us, and we need no second bidding. Maestro Bing gets things under way with an easy, relaxed introduction. He is soon joined by Rosie, whereupon a few wisecracks are indulged in, to make this number yet another light hearted romp.

Looking back, I see we've overlooked "SAY SI SI" which is perhaps one of the best numbers on the L.P., one of my favourites anyway.

There's some good harmonising, first rate accompaniment, with a flamenco styled guitar well in evidence in a couple of places.

Last number coming up is a repeat of "LOVE WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY" with of course appropriate words to round off this fancy globe trotting. Bing takes a solo spot after Miss Clooney's introduction, then later the duo take some quick alternating lines, something on the lines of question and answer. This number brings us to the end of the second enjoyable side.

May I hope that those of you who have not yet sampled the delights of this RCA 12" L.P. release, will give it a spin soon, and see what Bing offers with the capable assistance of Rosemary Clooney on this travelogue. The contributions of the well schooled Billy May orchestra which provides all the highly individual backings for the two stars, is also worthy of much praise.

THE END

COPIES OF THE 24 PAGE BOOKLET "THE LONG PLAYING MR CROSBY" ARE STILL AVAILABLE. FOR YOUR COPY SEND A BLANK 2/- POSTAL ORDER TO FRANK MURPHY. THE BOOKLET WHICH WAS COMPILED ESPECIALLY FOR THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY BY ONE OF THE U.K.'s LEADING COLLECTORS, LESLIE D GAYLOR, CONTAINS FULL INFORMATION ON EVERY BING CROSBY L.P. & E.P. RECORD ISSUED IN THE BRITISH ISLES UP TO NOVEMBER 1958.

DON'T MISS THIS FINAL OFFER: SEND FOR YOUR COPY -----NOW-----

SNIPPIT FROM THE PRESS: RADIO AND TV REVIEW (The Irish weekly) 10/7/59

DECCA DO *
NEW BING *
ASTORIA *

Bing Crosby fans - and there are quite a few of them left - will soon hear 7 titles sung by the "Old Groaner" which have never been issued commercially anywhere in the world before. The man to thank for the Bing-Feast is Les Gaylor, well known collector of Crosby records.

Mr Gaylor has been campaigning for the release of more Bing records in the U.K. and has bombarded the heads of British and American Decca companies with letters urging that Mr Crosby should be heard more often. Now English Decca are to issue an L.P. record of Bing songs-including the never-heard-before seven.

American Decca have many unissued records by Bing. They have not been put onto the American market because of the ever changing public taste in music, which has swung against Bing in recent years. The American company have granted the release rights of these records to English Decca because Bing still enjoys big sales in the United Kingdom.

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EDITORS NOTE

We had hoped to print a list of the seven records which will form part of this special release, but at the time of going to press, the information had not arrived from Les. However from news to hand at present, we are in for a really special treat when this L.P. is issued by Brunswick. Lookout for it and in the next issue of Crosby Post it will receive a full and detailed report from Bill

STORY

Father Conroy (Bing Crosby) is the priest of a Catholic church in the theatrical section of New York and introduces showmanship into his work. One of the regular attenders at his 2 a.m. Mass is the father of Holly (Debbie Reynolds) who is trying to put his daughter through college. But the strain of too many performances brings him down and Holly has to find herself a job. She tells her father she has become a secretary but actually gets a job as a singer and dancer in a second-rate nightclub where the producer, Tony Vincent (Robert Wagner), has an unsavoury reputation in regard to women.

Father Conroy discovers the deception and sees the double act Holly is performing with Tony. She pleads with him not to tell her ailing father.

Tony turns up at Holly's apartment but she outwits his seduction plans, although Tony leaves voluntarily.

While Father Conroy is arranging a national television show with Monsignor Stradford (Sebastian Cabot), Tony bursts in and accuses him of giving one of his own jokes, which Father Conroy had heard when watching the show, to a rival entertainer.

This places Father Conroy under an obligation to make restitution and the next day he turns up at Tony's apartment with home-made jokes to replace the one which he had passed on. There he meets Phil Stanley (Ray Walston), Tony's alcoholic accompanist, who writes all his material for him. Tony is unimpressed with the Father's jokes and invites him to try them out on an audience at the nightclub. Father Conroy, however, says that he will tell one from the pulpit at his 2 a.m. Mass. The joke falls flat.

Tony, meanwhile, has decided that the only way he will make any progress with Holly is by having a better class booking and he forces his agent, Joe Greb (Joe Besser), to book him at a Miami nightclub whose

proprietor is under an obligation to Tony. By getting this booking he also hopes to take Holly away from the influence of Father Conroy.

When Joe reports back that the nightclub owner's wife has told her husband about Tony's supposed relations with her the booking is off.

Tony vehemently denies having an affair with this woman but tells Joe to keep his mouth shut about the cancellation of the engagement while he finds a way to get on to Father Conroy's TV show.

Meanwhile, Father Conroy hears Phil playing a tune he has composed called "The Secret of Christmas" and persuades him to lay off the bottle and concentrate on composing. They go together to the swanky tailor where Tony is being fitted with spectacular clothes for his trip to Florida on which, he tells Father Conroy, he is taking Holly. The trick works and Father Conroy offers him a part in his TV show if he will give up his siege of Holly.

When Father Conroy tells Holly of his attempted deal with Tony she is more angry than grateful and accuses him of tempting Tony with "thirty pieces of silver."

Dressed in her most alluring garments Holly goes to Tony's apartment to remind him of his attempted seduction of her at her place early in their association. Tony by this time has fallen in love with Holly and refuses to take advantage of her.

All turns out well on the night of the TV show when, as an added reminder to Tony, the tailor delivers a jacket with short sleeves which reminds him of the hand-me-downs he wore in an impoverished childhood, and after Tony has introduced Father Conroy and Phil to the watching millions, he and Holly make up and finally leave for Miami as man and wife.

Say it with SONGS:

"Say One For Me" . . . "I Couldn't Care Less" . . . "You Can't Love Them All" . . . "The Secret Of Christmas" . . . "Chico's Choo Choo" . . . "The Girl Most Likely To Succeed" . . . "The Night Rock'N Roll Died (Almost)"

CAST

Father Conroy Bing Crosby
Holly Debbie Reynolds
Tony Vincent Robert Wagner
Phil Stanley Ray Walston
Harry LaMaise Les Tremayne
Mary Manning Connie Gilchrist
Jim Dugan Frank McHugh
Joe Greb Joe Besser
Sunny Alena Murray
Chorine Stella Stevens
Fay Flagg Nina Shipman
Monsignor Sebastian Cabot
June January Judy Harriet
Lou Christy Dick Whittinghill
Hotel Clerk Robert Montgomery, Jr
Otto Murray Alper
Capt. Bradford Richard Collier
Rabbi Berman David Leonard
Dr. Leventhal Thomas B. Henry
Rev. Kendall Wilkie de Martel
Pastor Johnson Alexander Campbell
Detective Minelli Bruce McFarlane

CREDITS

Produced and Directed by Frank Tashlin
Written by Robert O'Brien
Songs by Sammy Cahn and James Van Heusen
Dances Staged by Alex Romero
Music Supervised and Conducted by Lionel Newman
Director of Photography Leo Tover
Art Director Lyle R. Wheeler, Leland Fuller
Set Decorations Walter M. Scott, Eli Benneche
Film Editor Hugh S. Fowler, A.C.E.
Executive Wardrobe Designer Charles LeMaire
Costumes Designed by Adele Palmer
Makeup by Ben Nye, S.M.A.
Hair Styles by Helen Turpin, C.H.S.
Assistant Director Joseph E. Rickards
Sound E. Clayton Ward, Harry M. Leonard
Orchestration Earle Hagen, Herbert Spencer, Pete King
CinemaScope Lenses by Bausch & Lomb
Eastman Colour
Colour Consultant Leonard Doss

CINEMASCOPE

Regd. Trade Mark of
20th Century-Fox Film Corpn.

LENGTH: 10,720 feet

RUNNING TIME: 1 hr. 59 mins.

CERTIFICATE "U"

BING
CROSBY
DEBBIE
REYNOLDS
ROBERT
WAGNER

SAY ONE FOR ME

EASTMAN COLOUR



CO-STARRING

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY

WRITTEN BY

RAY WALSTON • **FRANK TASHLIN** • **ROBERT O'BRIEN**

A 20th CENTURY-FOX

CINEMASCOPE

PICTURE